The Whispered Prayer of the Repenters

From the Munajat of the Sahifa Sajjadiya: Imam Zayn al-Abidin's (a.s.) whispered prayer of those who turn back — confessing fault and hanging every hope on God's mercy alone.

51 lines · 6–7 min · alzair.app/munajat/munajat-taebeen

1

إلٰهِي أَلْبَسَتْنِي الْخَطايا ثَوْبَ مَذَلَّتِي،

ilaaheee al-basat-neel-khat'aayaa thaw-ba mad'al-latee

My God, offenses have clothed me in the garment of my lowliness,

2

وَجَلَّلَنِي التَّباعُدُ مِنْكَ لِباسَ مَسْكَنَتِي،

wa jal-lalaneet-tabaau'du minka libaasa mas-kanatee

separation from You has wrapped me in the clothing of my misery!

3

وَأَماتَ قَلْبِي عَظِيمُ جِنايَتِي،

wa amaata qal-bee a'z'eemu jinaayatee

My dreadful crimes have deadened my heart,

4

فَأَحْيِه بِتَوْبَةٍ مِنْكَ يا أَمَلِي وَبُغْيَتِي،

faah'-yihee bitaw-batim-minka yaaa amalee wa bugh-yatee

so bring it to life by a repentance from You! O my hope and my aim!

5

وَيا سُؤْلِي وَمُنْيَتِي،

wa yaa soo-lee wa munyatee

O my wish and my want!

6

فَوَعِزَّتِكَ ما أَجِدُ لِذُنُوبِي سِواكَ غافِراً،

fawai'z-zatik maaa ajidu lid'unoobee siwaaka ghafiraa

By Your might, I find no one but You to forgive my sins

7

وَلا أَرَىٰ لِكَسْرِي غَيْرَكَ جابِراً،

wa laaa araa likas-ree ghay-raka jaabiraa

and I see none but You to mend my brokenness!

8

وَقَدْ خَضَعْتُ بِالإِنابَةِ إِلَيْكَ

wa qad khaz''aa'-tu bil-inaabati ilay-k

I have subjected myself to You in repeated turning,

9

وَعَنَوْتُ بِالاسْتِكانَةِ لَدَيْكَ،

wa a'naw-tu bilis-tikaanati laday-k

I have humbled myself to You in abasement.

10

فَإِنْ طَرَدْتَنِي مِنْ بابِكَ فَبِمَنْ أَلُوذُ؟

fa in t'arat-tanee mim-baabika fabiman alood'

If You cast me out from Your door, in whom shall I take shelter?

11

وَإِنْ رَدَدْتَنِي عَنْ جَنابِكَ فَبِمَنْ أَعُوذُ؟

wa ir-radat-tanee a'n janaabika fabiman au'wd'

If You repell me from Your side, in whom shall I seek refuge?

12

فَوَا أَسَفاهُ مِنْ خَجْلَتِي وَافْتِضَاحِي،

fawaaa asafaahoo min khaj-latee wa af-tiz''aah'ee

O my grief at my ignominy and disgrace!

13

وَوا لَهْفاهُ مِنْ سُوءِ عَمَلِي وَاجْتِراحِي.

wa waa lah-fahoo min sooo-i a'malee wa aj-tiraah'ee

O my sorrow at my evil works and what I have committed!

14

أَسْأَلُكَ يا غافِرَ الذَّنْبِ الْكَبِيرِ

as-aluka yaa ghaafirad'-d'ambil-kabeer

I ask You, O Forgiver of great sins,

15

وَيا جابِرَ الْعَظْمِ الْكَسِيرِ،

wa yaa jaabiral-a'z'-mil-kaseer

O Mender of broken bones,

16

أَنْ تَهَبَ لِي مُوبِقاتِ الْجَرائِرِ،

an tahaba lee moobiqaatil-jaraaa-ir

to overlook my ruinous misdeeds

17

وَتَسْتُرَ عَلَيَّ فاضِحاتِ السَّرائِرِ،

wa tas-tura a'lay-ya faaz''ih'aatis-saraaa-ir

and cover my disgraceful secret thoughts!

18

وَلا تُخْلِنِي فِي مَشْهَدِ الْقِيامَةِ مِنْ بَرْدِ عَفْوِكَ وَغَفْرِكَ،

wa laa tukh-linee fee mash-hadil-qeeaamati mim-bar-di a'f-wika wa ghaf-rik

At the witnessing place of the Resurrection, empty me not of the coolness of Your pardon and forgiveness,

19

وَلا تُعْرِنِي مِنْ جَمِيلِ صَفْحِكَ وَسَتْرِكَ.

wa laa tua'-rinee min jameeli s'af-h'ika wa sat-rik

and strip me not of Your beautiful forbearance and covering!

20

إِلٰهِي ظَلِّلْ عَلَىٰ ذُنُوبِي غَمامَ رَحْمَتِكَ،

ilaahee z'al-lil a'laa d'unoobee ghamaama rah'-matika

My God, let the cloud of Your mercy cast its shadow upon my sins

21

وَأَرْسِلْ عَلىٰ عُيُوبِي سَحابَ رَأْفَتِكَ

wa ar-sil a'laa u'yoobee sah'aaba raa-fatik

and send the billow of Your clemency flowing over my faults!

22

إِلٰهِي هَلْ يَرْجِعُ الْعَبْدُ الأَبِقُ إلاَّ إِلَىٰ مَوْلاهُ

ilaahee hal yar-jiu'l-a'b-dul-aaabiqu il-laaa ilaa maw-laahoo

My God, does the fugitive servant return to anyone other than his Master?

23

أَمْ هَلْ يُجِيرُهُ مِنْ سَخَطِهِ أَحَدٌ سِواهُ؟

am hal yujeeruhoo min sakhat'iheee ah'dun siwaah

Or does anyone grant him sanctuary from his Master’s wrath other than his Master Himself?

24

إِلٰهِي إِنْ كانَ النَّدَمُ عَلَى الذَّنْب تَوْبَةً،

ilaahee in kanan-nadamu a'laad'-d'ambi taw-batan

My God, if remorse for sins is a repentance,

25

فَإِنِّي وَعِزَّتِكَ مِنَ النَّادِمِينَ،

fa in-nee wa i'z-zatika minan-naadimeen

I - by Your might - am one of the remorseful!

26

وَإِنْ كَانَ الاسْتِغْفارُ مِنَ الْخَطيئَةِ حِطَّةً،

wa in kaanalis-tigh-faaru minal-khat'ee-ati h'it'-t'atan

If praying forgiveness for offenses is an alleviation,

27

فَإِنِّي لَكَ مِنَ الْمُسْتَغْفِرِينَ،

fa in-nee laka minal-mus-tagh-fireena

I am one of those who pray forgiveness!

28

لَكَ الْعُتْبىٰ حَتَّىٰ تَرْضَىٰ.

lakal-u't-baa h'at-taa tar-z''aa

To You I return that You may be well pleased!

29

إِلٰهِي بِقُدْرَتِكَ عَلَيَّ تُبْ عَلَيَّ،

ilaahee biqud-ratika a'lay-ya tub a'lay

My God, through Your power over me, turn toward me,

30

وَبِحِلْمِكَ عَنِّي اعْفُ عَنِّي،

wa bih'il-mika a'n-nee aa'-fu a'n-nee

through Your clemency toward me, pardon me,

31

وَبِعِلْمِكَ بِي ارْفَقْ بِي.

wa bii'l-mika bee ar-fuq bee

and through Your knowledge of me, be gentle toward me!

32

إِلٰهِي أَنْتَ الَّذِي فَتَحْتَ لِعِبادِكَ بَاباً إِلَىٰ عَفْوِكَ سَمَّيْتَهُ التَّوْبَةَ،

ilaaheee antal-lad'ee fatah'-ta lii'baadika baaban ilaa a'f-wika sam-may-tahut-taw-bata:

My God, You are He who has opened a door to Your pardon and named it 'repentance',

33

فَقُلْتَ: (تُوبُوا إِلَىٰ اللَّهِ تَوْبَةً نَصُوحاً)،

faqul-ta(tooboo ilaal-laahee taw-batan-nas'ooh'a)

for You said, Repent to God with unswerving repentance.

34

فَما عُذْرُ مَنْ أَغْفَلَ دُخُولَ الْبابِ بَعْدَ فَتْحِهِ.

famaa u'd'-ru man agh-fala dukhoolal-baabi baa'-da fat-h'ih

What is the excuse of him who remains heedless of entering the door after its opening?

35

إِلٰهِي إِنْ كانَ قَبُحَ الذَّنْبُ مِنْ عَبْدِكَ

ilaaheee in kaana qabuh'ad'-d'ambu min a'b-dika

My God, though the sins of Your servant are ugly,

36

فَلْيَحْسُنِ الْعَفْوُ مِنْ عِنْدِكَ.

fal-yah'-sunil-a'f-wu min i'ndik

Your pardon is beautiful.

37

إِلٰهِي ما أَنَا بِأَوَّلِ مَنْ عَصاكَ، فَتُبْتَ عَلَيْهِ،

ilaahee maaa ana biw-wali man- a's'aaka fatub-ta a'lay-h

My God, I am not the first to have disobeyed You, and You turned toward him,

38

وَتَعَرَّضَ بِمَعْرُوفِكَ، فَجُدْتَ عَلَيْهِ،

wa taa'r-raz''a limaa'-roofika fajud-ta a'lay-h

or to have sought to attain Your favour, and You were munificent toward him.

39

يا مُجِيبَ الْمُضْطَرِّ،

yaa mujeebal-muz''-t'ar

O Responder to the distressed!

40

يا كَاشِفَ الضُّرِّ،

yaa kaashifaz''-z''ur

O Remover of injury!

41

يا عَظِيمَ الْبِرِّ،

yaa a'z'eemal-bir

O Great in goodness!

42

يا عَليمَاً بِما فِي السِّرِّ،

yaa a'leemam-bimaa fis-sir

O Knower of everything secret!

43

يا جَمِيلَ السِّتْرِ

yaa jameelas-sit-r

O Beautiful through covering over!

44

اسْتَشْفَعْتُ بِجُودِكَ وَكَرَمِكَ إلَيْكَ،

is-tash-faa'-tu bijoodika wa karamika ilay-k

I seek Your munificence and Your generosity to intercede with You,

45

وَتَوَسَّلْتُ بِجَنابِكَ وَتَرَحُّمِكَ لَدَيْكَ،

wa tawas-sal-tu bijanabika wa tarah'-h'umika laday-ka

I seek Your side and Your showing mercy to mediate with You,

46

فَاسْتَجِبْ دُعائِي،

fas-tajib dua'aa-ee

so grant my supplication,

47

وَلا تُخَيِّبْ فِيكَ رَجَائِي

wa laa tukhay-yib feeka rajaaa-ee

disappoint not my hope in You,

48

وَتَقَبَّلْ تَوْبَتِي

wa taqab-bal taw-batee

accept my repentance,

49

وَكَفِّرْ خَطيئَتِي،

wa kaf-fir khat'ee-atee

and hide my offense,

50

بِمَنِّكَ وَرَحْمَتِكَ

biman-nika wa rah'-matika

through Your kindness and mercy,

51

يا أَرْحَمَ الرَّاحِمِينَ.

yaaa ar-h'amar-raah'imeen

O Most Merciful of the merciful